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Docket Management System,
U.S. Department of Transportation,
Room Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW.,
Washington, DC 20590-0001.

Subject: Document FAA-2001-11090-1, Petition Army Aviation
Heritage Foundation - Exemption/Rulemaking

Dear Sir or Madam:

I strongly support the exemption of 14 CFR Sections 91.319 , 119.5 (g) and 119.25 (b) allowing the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation to utilize an Experimental Exhibition Category aircraft to provide flight experiences only to individuals who are members of AAHF and supporting members of AAHF's UH-1 "Friends of the Huey" organization.

I have just completed a review of comments for the petition requesting continued operation by the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation. If these comments lead to the removal of the exemption for the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation, a gross travesty of justice will have occurred. My opinion is that these comment forms should be seen for what they are, a collection of half-truths designed to leave the Federal Government ill-informed in the hopes that a decision could be made that would guarantee the removal of an organization they view as direct competition. I cannot understand this attitude, as our organization is primarily an educational organization that pays tribute to veterans by sharing a part of their, and our, history.

I first became acquainted with the Army Aviation Heritage foundation in May of 2000 at a show performed at Ft. Rucker, Alabama. At the time, I had recently retired from the Army Reserve. I had served in Army Aviation as a maintenance manager and UH-1 test pilot for over twenty years. The Foundation had their helicopters on static display after the show, to include having the cowlings open. To a maintainer, this is a golden opportunity to check out the truth of the operation. What I saw inspired me to join this group of professionals, who were dedicated to keeping the aircraft that I had grown to love in

restored historic and flyable condition. I spoke to the members on the flight line and discovered that some of them were interested in starting a chapter in my local area. I joined on the spot.

Our first meeting was held and a Mr. Mike Brady, and a Brigadier General (Retired) Dave Allen attended representing the AAHF. I had not heard of Mike Brady but I had heard of his father, a respected Aviation Pioneer that helped transition the Army Aviation branch into the force it is today. I had also heard of BG (R) Dave Allen as well. He is another greatly respected Army Aviation pioneer. The membership of so many senior and respected pioneers of Army aviation must certainly be considered when deciding to continue to grant this exemption. On a side note, many of the authors of the negative comments were removed very early on as likely participatory demonstrators for the 2000 Armed Forces Day show at Ft. Rucker and have not been invited for subsequent events.

I am a retired U.S. Army Master Aviator who has flown, maintained, and commanded organizations that operated many of the aircraft used by the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation. I cannot adequately communicate the intense feelings of pride and patriotism I get when I witness these professionals perform. One of the things I do in my post military life is attend many air shows and patriotic events throughout the summer. I have personally witnessed the Army Aviation Sky Soldiers at least 15 times in the past three years. They have never displayed any action nor caused me concern at any single one of these events.

I have been to many air shows with the Foundation where I have witnessed veterans from the communities in which these shows occurred experience what can only be stated as a catharsis. I have witnessed veterans especially those who served in Viet Nam, many disabled and permanently scarred, who have opened up about events that they simply have not talked about with their families, friends or neighbors. These experiences are not few in scope, they have occurred at every single performance I have witnessed by this group of professionals who are members of the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation. The children of deceased veterans often share their memories of their fallen parent, and find a link to their past in the venerable Huey.

As a retired soldier who has also served as a maintenance officer on one of the aircraft operated by the AAHF, I make it my business to continually inspect helicopters and aircraft that appear at air shows and patriotic themed events. I am U.S. Army aviation maintenance officer trained to conduct maintenance inspections on the UH-1 series of aircraft. This organization, the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation, has managed to continually fly and perform with aircraft that we are proud to share with the public. I have witnessed numerous FAA ramp

checks of both pilots and aircraft, and have been proud of the results of the inspections. Unpaid professionals dedicate their spare time and experience in a labor of love, closely supervised by FAA certificated maintenance personnel, who donate their time and vast knowledge to this educational endeavor.

My background and experience with maintenance and all matters relating to Army Aviation mandate that if my family is going to get a helicopter ride, it will be in an aircraft maintained and operated by the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation. What a shame it would be to deny the public this patriotic and educational experience by succumbing to the half-truth laden letters written by self-serving business persons. I have grown to love the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation Sky Soldiers demonstration team and UH-1 "Friends of the Huey" ride program.

I would be proud to share my knowledge and experiences with you in person at a time of your choosing. I invite you to visit our organization, and see for yourself the dedication and love that keep these historic aircraft flying.

Sincerely,

Lisa C. Bailey

A real concerned Retired Master Army Aviator